BENGALURU, MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 36 | Min 24 | Humidity 42% Partly Cloudy Sensex 73,878 | Nifty 22,475 | Gold 70,677 | Silver 81,060 | Dollar 83.38 | Euro 89.82 | GBP 104.63

SUDDEN BRAKE

Problem of unscientific speed breakers cropping up on city roads

PAGE 3

DROP BY DROP

BWSSB plans for community rain harvesting to conserve water

PAGE 4

BMRCL did up this lake at around Rs 2.5 cr and handed it over to BBMP. A month on, after bulbs went missing or were broken from poles on walking path, now miscreants trying to cut, steal bamboo

THE DAMAGE IS DONE

Just one home guard to keep vigil unable to stop vandalism of many

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Benniganahalli Lake was developed by Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) at an estimated cost of Rs 2.50 crore to provide a walking path, lights, park and other facilities. The BMRCL handed over the water body to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Lakes Department a month ago.

However, miscreants, who have not only stolen but also broken most of the bulbs fitted to the electrical poles along the walking path, are now attempting to filch bamboo from the premises. A few days ago, the miscreants cut a bamboo plant but failed to remove it from the cluster of bamboos. "I was surprised to see that one of the bamboo plants had been cut. I immediately informed the volunteers at the lake. The authorities concerned must take measures to prevent miscreants from entering the lake," said Balasubramanian S, a resident of Sai Sadan, Pai Layout.

The BBMP Lakes Department

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

The fuse box at Benniganahalli Lake has been torn apart; bulb is missing from a pole

> "We requested the BBMP Lakes Department to allow us to maintain the lake as we can find a sponsor who could donate for lake maintenance under CSR initiative but the authorities did not give their consent
>
> — Anupama VL, Benniganahalli Kere Community Development Trust treasurer

No entry means NO ENTRY

We go where we want to go: 40,000 cases of violation recorded already this year

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It is just May, and the city has already recorded more than 40,000 cases of vehicles entering in no-entry lanes this year. Experts point to the lack of enforcement as the main reason for the rise in violations.

For most commuters in the city, sections demarcated as no-entry or one-way, are stretches to be more careful on. This is because vehicles often do come through the opposite direction anyway. Going against the flow of traffic, these vehicles pose significant risks to motorists and pedestrians.

Proving the trend, the traffic police recorded more than 40,000 cases of no-entry violations, which include both traversing into No entry roads as well as wrong-side driving. According to data by traffic police as of March 31, they have recorded 40,799 such cases. In 2023, the city saw 1,44,290 cases of no-entry violations. However, the city saw a 71.08% decrease in the number of cases from 2022 with the city recording 4,99,010 cases.

Traffic officials highlight that public allegations about enforcement prevent them from taking firm action. "Primarily, we conduct drives for no-entry violations but due to the model code of conduct, we have not been conducting them. Using the field traffic violation report (FTVR) system, the violation is photographed and a fine notice is sent to the residential address. When we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Something for everyone

Indulge in a day of vibrant festivities and creative flair at Sunday Soul Sante! Explore a diverse array of stalls offering everything from handcrafted treasures to delicious artisanal delights. Whether you're shopping for unique gifts, savouring gourmet treats, or simply soaking in the lively atmosphere, there's something for everyone at this beloved community event. Don't miss out on the chance to experience Bangalore's vibrant cultural scene firsthand! **When- May 12, 10 am onwards; Where- Jayamahal Palace Hotel**

02 Begin your start-up journey

Join the vibrant startup community at the "Startup Mixer: Bootstrapping to IPO" event. This gathering is a unique opportunity for entrepreneurs, investors, and industry professionals to network, share insights, and explore the journey from bootstrapping a startup to achieving an Initial Public Offering (IPO). Engage in stimulating discussions, gain valuable perspectives from seasoned experts, and discover strategies for navigating the dynamic landscape of entrepreneurship. **When- May 11, 4 pm onwards; Where- EIRM: An Entrepreneur Institute, Basavangudi**

03 Saturday jam

This event promises an evening filled with melodious tunes and soulful performances by talented artists. Whether one is a music enthusiast or simply seeking a delightful evening, Let's Jam guarantees to captivate the senses and leave attendees craving for more. Don't miss out on this opportunity to experience the magic of live music! **When- May 11, 4 pm onwards Where- Koramangala Social**

Flower chariot festival

The roads in Ulsoor were filled with the fragrance of flowers for the annual car festival, 'Poo Pallaki' (palanquin of flowers), organised by the Someshwara Temple. The event began on Saturday at midnight. Over 500 kg of flowers are used to prepare the palanquin. Deities from several temples across the city graced the procession, in Bengaluru on Sunday.

New, artistic life for old abandoned divine frames

Local initiative breathes new life into forgotten religious artefacts, transforming frames into vibrant masterpieces

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In Malleswaram, a group of locals is on a mission to rescue and reuse abandoned frames of divine idols. Working together under the Sampige Foundation, along with EAT RAJA and Malleswaram Socials, they're turning old frames into beautiful artwork. Over 500 frames have been saved which were completely abandoned.

Vignesh Mani, co-founder of the Sampige Foundation, explained their goal, "We want to give respect to these old divine pictures and make something new and beautiful from their frames." The project started in January 2024, and since then, they've saved over 500 frames. These frames were once left alone, but now they're getting a second chance. Students are turning them into artwork, which is then displayed in exhibitions around the area. It's all part of making the community more colourful and lively.

One special find was a drawing of Urmila, Laxmana's wife, in a scene called Rama Pattabhisheka. "Finding this drawing was like finding a hidden treasure," said Mani. It's rare to see Urmila in these pictures, making it extra special. Another old artwork they found was of Nanjundeshwara Utsava Murthy, which is about 50 years old. This piece is now being fixed up by a special team. The project has been a big hit with the public. People are donating old pictures and helping out with the artwork. They've even collected over 1,000 pictures from Bangalore and nearby places.

The process starts by carefully taking the pictures out of their frames. Then, they hold a special ceremony called Shanti Homa to say goodbye to the pictures respectfully. After that, the frames are ready for their new artwork. A video on Instagram got more than 3.2 million views, and after that, even more people wanted to help. With all the support, they're hoping to save even more pictures and frames in the future.

> **"The project has been a big hit with the public. People are donating old pictures and helping out with the artwork** – Vignesh Mani, co-founder, Sampige Foundation

Kiran Yadav, Founder of Sampige Foundation, said, "The public has been incredibly supportive. We carefully separate the photos from their frames and conduct a respectful disposal through a Shanti Homa ritual. The frames are then repurposed to showcase stunning artwork by students, displayed in exhibitions held at previously littered spots, now transformed into art spaces. After separating the photos for respectful disposal, we repurpose the frames to house beautiful artwork by students. These repurposed frames are showcased in exhibitions, contributing to the beautification of once-neglected and littered areas."

Mani added, "We plan to expand our project's scope and scale, aiming to collect even more divine photos for respectful disposal and frame repurposing. Following a viral Instagram reel with over 3.2 million views, we have received a surge in volunteers, enabling us to dismantle a greater number of photos during our Murthy Shodane events. Our ultimate vision is to eliminate abandoned divine photos entirely, creating a channel for people to leave such items with us for a dignified farewell. We encourage people to refrain from discarding these items near temples or streets, opting instead to leave them at any EAT RAJA branch for respectful disposal, ensuring peace of mind for all involved."

Frames donated for repurposing

Curious bump in the road

Unscientifically constructed speedbreaker poses risk at Gubbalala road, but no one knows who built it

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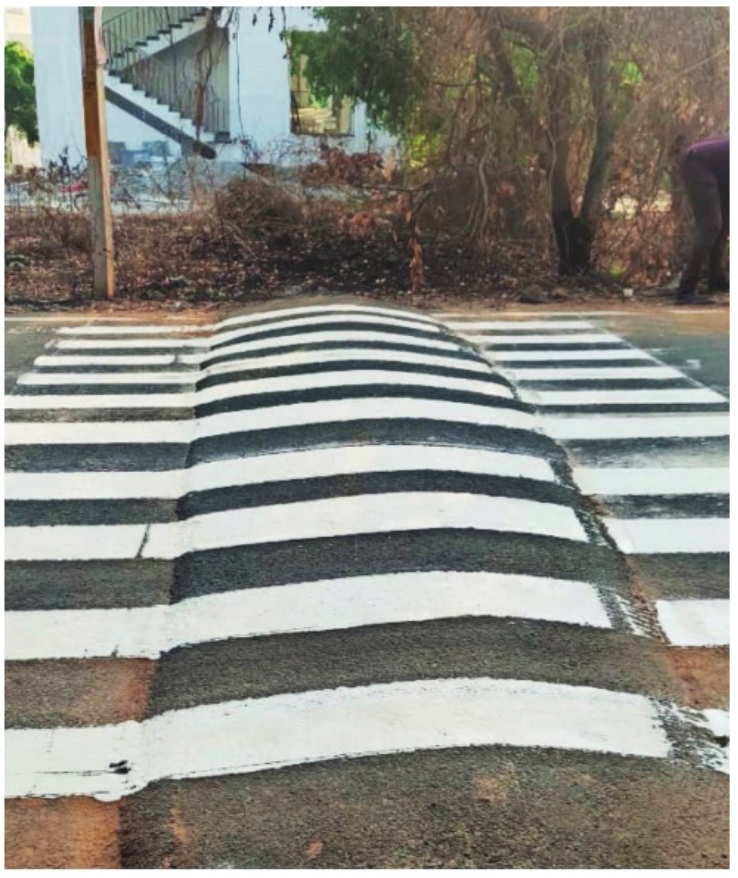
In the city, speed breakers are being laid as per the whims and fancies of local leaders. No permission is availed of and no norms are followed. This has resulted in there being many unscientific road humps on the city roads and the authorities concerned have had to later on get them removed. However, the more such humps are removed, the more they crop up.

A case in point is a hump constructed on 80 Ft Road near KSIT College Junction at Gubbalala off Kanakapura Road. It is quite shocking to know that no one, including the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA) engineer, knows who has constructed that hump, which is causing more inconvenience than working as a speed breaker for the benefit of pedestrians. The area comes under the BDA jurisdiction.

The residents and social activists complain that the hump is a hurdle

"The painting done under the supervision of a BDA engineer is also wrong. It is unfortunate that some of the engineers, either BDA or BBMP engineer, do not know the norms to be followed while constructing a hump



or even danger for motorists, especially two-wheeler riders. "I came to know that a road accident took place due to the unscientific road hump two days ago. I informed the BDA engineer who arranged for the road hump to be painted so that it is visible to the motorists. But the basic issue is that of unscientific construction of the hump," said Gautam Kamath, a resident of the area.

Stating that unscientific humps on the roads are causing problems to motorists, Sunil Ponnanna, a resident of Gubbalala, demanded that authorities concerned remove all unscientific humps soon. "The hump constructed near KSIT College Junction is not as per the norms," he said.

Professor MN Srihari, a traffic expert, said the road hump was not constructed as per the Indian Road Congress (IRC) norms. "There is a procedure for constructing a road hump.

The traffic police have to submit a report explaining why a hump is required at the particular spot. For this, the traffic police should conduct a survey. Later, they have to discuss with the authorities concerned. The hump should be constructed as per the IRC norms," said Prof. Srihari.

He said the painting on the hump is meant for a high rise pedestrian crossing but the hump is not a high rise pedestrian crossing. "The painting done under the supervision of a BDA engineer is also wrong. It is unfortunate that some of the engineers, either BDA or BBMP engineer, do not know the norms to be followed while constructing a hump," he said, adding that all measures, including putting up a sign board cautioning the motorists about hump on the road, need to be taken by the authorities for the welfare of motorists and pedestrians.

BDA engineer Ramu told BM he was not aware who had constructed the hump on the road. "The BDA does not encourage construction of humps on the roads. I arranged the painting because someone has requested it. I am also aware that the hump was not constructed as per the norms. I will take measures to reconstruct the hump as per the norms in a few days," said the BDA engineer.

146 cases of transporting lengthy material on vehicles

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Traffic police have registered 146 cases in 2024 for transporting lengthy material on vehicles. However, commuters say steel rods and pipes jutting out from vehicles that pose a significant hazard is a common sight in city.

"If I observe someone transporting such items on two-wheelers, it heightens my vigilance. At junctions and bends, it becomes scarier," said a commuter. Another citizen said that they had seen people carrying lengthy materials even on flyovers and nobody stopped them. "I understand that people don't want to hire another vehicle to transport goods for short distances, but that doesn't mean you can endanger other people's lives."

Others said accidents aren't primarily caused by large goods on bikes; instead, it's the poor road conditions that render them accident-prone.

"I've seen vehicles being intercepted by traffic police for transporting oversized goods. But let's not focus on the wrong thing. We have never seen someone getting into an accident because of lengthy material, but we have seen people get hurt due to signal jumping. Certain violations are more fatal than lengthy material on the road," added a citizen, Saurabh.

Bangalore Mirror
Commuters talk about close shaves with goods vehicles carrying jutting iron rods, poles, pipes not only in periphery but also in centre of city
AT THE SHARP END
Enforcement agencies look the other way as advisory flouted

BM had reported on May 3 about perils of uncovered goods vehicles carrying dangerous items

String theory: One more advisory to cut manja out

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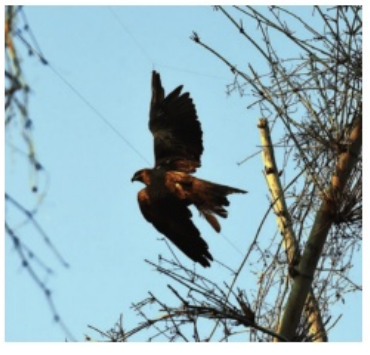
The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has issued an advisory urging all states and union territories to prohibit the use of harmful kite-flying threads, known as 'manja', under the Environment (Protection) Act (EPA), 1986. The advisory emphasises on the dangers posed by manja, particularly those coated with glass or metal, and advocates for the use of plain cotton string instead.

Despite the nationwide ban on manja, Karnataka continues to grapple with the sale and usage of these hazardous threads, leading to a significant number of injuries among both birds and humans. Colonel Dr. Nawaz Sharif, Chief veterinarian at People for Animals (PfA), expressed concern over the issue, stating, "It has been banned by the green tribunal for a long time.

The pollution control board has to enforce the ban effectively." He emphasised on the need for stringent measures to address the root cause, advocating for a ban on manufacturing, sale, and possession of manja at all levels.

The statistics provided by PfA paint a grim picture of the consequences of manja usage. Colonel Sharif revealed that PfA receives at least 3-4 cases of bird injuries daily, totaling about 120-150 cases every month. Moreover, nearly 800 birds



were rescued last year alone, many of which suffered severe injuries, including bone fractures, due to entanglement with manja.

The implications of manja extend beyond avian casualties, as humans attempting to rescue entangled birds often inadvertently cause further harm. PfA employs specialised equipment and techniques to minimise harm during rescue operations, but the need for proactive measures to prevent such incidents is evident.

PfA is also involved in raising awareness about the dangers of manja, particularly among schoolchildren. Over 4 lakh students have pledged to refrain from using Chinese manja and crackers.

Subiksha Venkatesh, lead wildlife rehabilitator, ARRC, said, "The lethal glass-coated manja string remains the predominant cause of wild bird rescues in our city. Our team alone has rescued over 10,850 birds and bats from manja in Bengaluru in the past six years alone.

Despite the National Green Tribunal's recognition of the threat mana poses to both human and non-human lives and its subsequent ban in 2016, effective implementation remains a challenge.

The manufacture, distribution, and sale of manja must be closely monitored and prohibited. Moreover, stringent measures should ensure that any kite-flying festivals utilise only eco-friendly materials, avoiding the use of manja altogether."

Venkatesh added that imposing fines on individuals caught using the string would act as a deterrent. "Establishing a standardised reporting protocol for the manufacture and sale of manja would encourage public cooperation and enable organizations like ours to support authorities in confiscating the banned material."

Community rainwater harvesting to revive lakes

With the onset of monsoon, BWSSB launches an ambitious plan to harness rainwater from rooftops and buildings, directing it to replenish city's lakes

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After months of no rainfall, the rainy season is starting now, and the focus should be on catching every drop of rainwater. Hence, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) is planning for community rainwater harvesting. The proposed community rainwater harvesting aims to ensure that the lakes and tanks are filled up. BWSSB chairman V Ram Prasath Manohar said, "We have received a good response for that, and we are implementing 74 proposals in phases. In the initial phase, we will focus on the vicinity of Varthur and Bellandur lakes. Under this proposal, pipes will be installed from buildings directly to nearby lakes. We will be targeting excess rainwater from apartment complexes and commercial buildings that are let off into drains. The key to success is awareness."

BWSSB officials have expressed their commitment to replenishing groundwater through various methods. In April alone, the board has already installed 986 seepage wells, with a target of adding 250 recharge pits to each zone. These efforts aim to capture rainwater that would otherwise drain away, directing it towards the seepage wells. Rainwater from rooftops and open surfaces is channelled into these wells, which can be relatively compact, measuring three feet in diameter and 15-20 feet deep. This collected water plays a crucial role in recharging groundwater, potentially transforming it into accessible wells for future water withdrawal. Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department said that a cyclonic circulation has been observed over Marathwada and its surrounding areas, hovering at 1.5 km above mean sea level. Alongside this, a noticeable trough or wind discontinuity extends from Marathwada to south Tamil Nadu across interior Karnataka, positioned at 0.9 km above mean sea level.

A rainwater harvesting system

Looking ahead, the weather forecast for Karnataka over the next seven days predicts varying conditions. Starting from Monday, scientists anticipate light to moderate rain or thundershowers in specific regions like Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Kodagu, Mysuru, and more. Other districts are likely to experience dry weather.

"As we progress to Tuesday, similar conditions persist with rain or thundershowers forecasted for various districts such as Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Raichur, and several others. The remainder of the state should encounter dry weather. This trend continues into Wednesday with expectations of light to moderate rain in districts like Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Raichur, and others, while the rest maintain dry conditions. On Friday, we anticipate light to moderate rain in specific areas like Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttar Kannada, Raichur, Bidar, Kalaburgi, Yadgir, Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Hassan, Kodagu, and Mandya districts. Meanwhile, the remaining districts are expected to stay dry. In addition to the rain forecast, there is a heatwave warning in effect. For the next few days, heatwave conditions are expected to prevail over several districts including Bidar, Kalaburgi, Vijayapura, Yadgir, Raichur, Bagalkot, Koppal, Vijayanagara, and Ballari. This heatwave advisory emphasizes the importance of taking precautions to stay cool and hydrated, especially for vulnerable groups such as infants, elderly individuals, and those with chronic diseases," said N Puvirasan, scientist, IMD.

> **"In the initial phase, we will focus on the vicinity of Varthur and Bellandur lakes. Under this proposal, pipes will be installed from buildings directly to nearby lakes** – V Ram Prasath Manohar, chairman, BWSSB

Bengaluru may have a partly cloudy sky with moderate rain and thundershowers towards the evening or night, with temperatures hovering between 39 degrees and 24 degrees Celsius for the next few days.

K-Ride nears decision on Suburban Rail rolling stock supplier

Plans to procure modern coaches for BSRP gains momentum as bid finalisation approaches on May 27

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K-Ride is poised to finalise the bidder for the supply of rolling stock for the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP). Sources within K-Ride indicate that financial bids will be solicited from firms after May 27. As work on Corridor 2 of BSRP gains momentum, with plans to commence operations by 2026, K-Ride is in the process of finalising bids for the supply of rolling stock. BSRP intends to procure rolling stock similar to those used by the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL). These trains are expected to feature fully air-conditioned coaches, unlike most suburban trains.

In December of last year, K-Ride issued a request for quotation (RFQ) for the "Selection of Lessor for Design, Manufacture, Supply, Commissioning, Operation, and Maintenance of Rolling Stock for Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project." Following the RFQ, three firms were deemed technically qualified: Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited (BHEL), and CAF, Spain. These firms progressed to the second stage, where bids will be opened and the contractor finalised. K-Ride is undertaking the procurement, operation, and maintenance of rolling stock on the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. However, due to the model code of conduct currently in place, K-Ride is unable to conduct the bidding process.

For the 148.17 km BSRP network, K-Ride plans to procure 294 coaches and deploy 84 trains across four corridors connecting the city. Land has been identified for the construction of depots, including major depots at Devanahalli and Soldevanahalli, and minor depots tentatively planned at Kengeri/Whitefield and Heelalige.

In the first phase, BSRP will operate on four corridors, extending the network to Devanahalli + Airport Connectivity, Baiyyappanahalli - Chikkabanavara, Kengeri - Whitefield, and Heelalige - Rajanukunte. Once operational, BSRP aims to serve 9.84 lakh passengers per day, connecting Bengaluru city to its suburbs and satellite townships. In the second phase, BSRP proposed a 452 km network connecting satellite towns/cities around Bengaluru. However, this proposal was rejected by SWR citing IR's plan to implement a 287 km circular network.

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Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

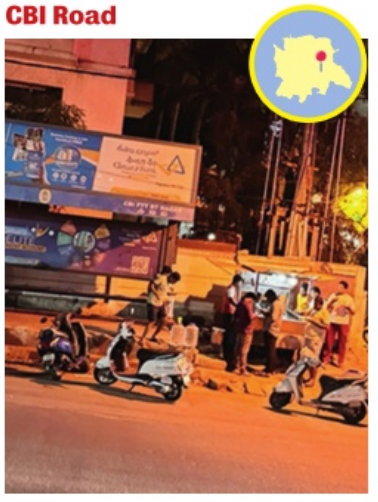
Job well done
ISRO Layout

BBMP took swift action to clear the trash behind the bus stop after the issue was reported on BM on Sunday.

No more banner ban?
Hennur

Banners have been placed along the pedestrian path, despite the ban, at Hennur Cross.

Bus stop for vendors
CBI Road


The entire bus stop area on CBI Road is occupied by roadside vendors, forcing commuters to enter and exit buses directly onto the road.

On the wrong side of law in the Expressway

Commuters demand stricter action against motorists taking wrong side on B'luru-Mysuru expressway

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Commuters on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway are greatly troubled by the persistence of wrong-side driving despite the measures implemented by the traffic police. Some suggest that only by implementing driving license suspensions and imposing penalties exceeding Rs 10,000-Rs 20,000 can the issue be effectively addressed.

Bikers who frequently use the Expressway report encountering instances of wrong-side riding or driving, significantly heightening the risks on the road.

"The police department is catching the violators, but stricter rules are urgently needed, including the confiscation and suspension of driving licenses. Imposing hefty penalties can also serve as a deterrent. It's akin to attempted murder when people drive in this manner," said Dave, a biker.

He emphasised that the Transport Department and Traffic Departments need to introduce amendments and stringent measures, similar to those applied in cases of drink-driving offences and fines, to curb such behaviour.

Furthermore, all entry and exit points need to be manned and

Bangalore-Mysuru Expressway

monitored via Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras.

"It's not just the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway; we can witness this wrong-side violation on any highway or expressway, including the Electronic City Elevated Expressway. Strict enforcement of the law is imperative, and some threats to the driver's license can prove effective. However, currently, there seems to be a lack of comprehensive checks in place. In several countries, there are distinct training processes for city and highway driving or riding. It's concerning that individuals may learn to drive in smaller vehicles but later transition to SUVs without adequate experience or practice. Despite the development of impressive expressways and infrastructure in India, there's a notable gap in driver preparedness for handling them effectively," he added.

Other citizens also discuss the use of 'tyre-killers' to discourage wrong-side driving, though some caution that while it might seem appealing at first glance, it warrants careful examination before implementation.

"There are various aspects that require thorough study. Tyre killers function akin to regular speed breakers for vehicles traveling in the correct direction. However, their design is intended to puncture the tyres of vehicles travelling in the wrong direction. So, instead of this, the police can try to ensure better enforcement," said another resident.

Claws out against KFD over tiger cub rescue operation

Wildlife activists slam forest department's handling, alleging lapses in procedure & preparation

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PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Wildlife conservationists and activists have slammed the Karnataka Forest Department (KFD), citing a lack of preparedness among field staff during a recent tiger cub rescue operation in Pradhani of Uttar Kannada.

Conservationists and activists allege that some of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) put in place by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) for such rescue operations were not followed by KFD staff, mainly due to a lack of experience and preparedness.

"There were some lapses in the rescue operation of an abandoned tiger cub that was conducted a week ago. The most glaring was the ineffective crowd management strategy during the operation. There were thousands of people on the spot. Moreover, officials had chased the cub for a long time, and the animal was exhausted," said a conservationist.

The guidelines by NTCA underline that in all instances of wild carnivores like tigers/leopards straying into a human-dominated landscape, the district authorities should ensure law and order by imposing Section 144 of the CrPC. This is essential to avoid agitation and curious locals surrounding the animal spot, which hampers capture operations, leading to serious injuries to people and staff.

The rescue operation of a six-month-old male tiger cub was started after the animal was spotted by villagers of Pradhani. The cub was separated from his mother and landed in the village.

Some wildlife activists claimed that while NTCA SOP mandates the constitution of a committee in the case of the rescue operation of an abandoned tiger cub, it was not framed before carrying out the operation.

As per the SOP, to deal with abandoned tiger cubs, a committee should be constituted for technical guidance and monitoring on a day-to-day basis. It should include a nominee of the Chief Wildlife Warden, a nominee of NTCA, a veterinarian, a local NGO representative, a representative of the local Panchayat, and a KFD official (field director/protected area manager/DFO).

> **"The need of the hour is to have dedicated tiger/leopard squads with forest officials having some experience in handling such rescues**
>
> –a wildlife activist

However, KFD officials say the committee, as directed under NTCA guidelines, was constituted.

"We have followed NTCA's SOP and constituted a committee for the operation. We had also formed five teams to conduct a combing operation to locate the mother. We also gathered information from locals, and we got to know that the cub had been on his own for more than ten days before we rescued him. Our veterinarian also said the cub had been starving for more than a week before we found him, indicating his mother was not around. Efforts to reunite the cub with the mother have been called off," said Dr Prashantkumar KC, DCF, Haliyal territorial division.

However, according to trusted sources on the ground, the rescue operation was marred by a lack of appropriate equipment and trained/experienced staff, leading to ineptness among officials during the operation.

"The need of the hour is to have dedicated tiger/leopard squads with forest officials having some experience in handling such rescues. The team conducting the operation on the ground was created by random picks. Those who proactively wanted to come to the rescue were sent. Moreover, the department should consider upgrading rescue equipment such as gloves, nets, and rescue suits. The staff should at least receive periodic training to handle such situations," said an activist.

"All staff members are given this training during induction. Hands-on experience can come only when staff is exposed to such situations. We conducted a workshop for frontline staff where they received training and they could interact with However, there is scope for improvement," clarified Dr Prashantkumar.

Flat sale: SC orders status quo, adjourns case to July 23

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The Supreme Court ordered promoters of Mantri Serenity Apartment to ensure that flats should not be sold to somebody else until further orders. It is alleged that the promoters terminated the agreement of a home buyer illegally. The home buyers entered the agreements with Mantri Castles Private Limited in 2013 with a commitment of possession in 2016.

However, the promoters of Mantri Serenity Apartment terminated the agreement on October 18, 2023 and the amount deposited by the appellant was refunded by depositing the same through RTGS mode into his account. It is submitted that appellant No. 24 had immediately sent an e-mail to the respondents protesting the said action of cancellation.

Meanwhile, the counsel representing the respondents (Mantri Castles Pvt Ltd now known as Castles Vista Pvt Ltd) submitted to the Supreme Court that the subject flat/apartment allocated to the appellant No. 24 is still available.

"The respondents are directed to maintain status quo with regard to the possession/allotment to a third party in respect of the subject flat/apartment, till further orders," the Supreme Court said in an order dated April 30, 2024.

The Supreme Court said that Bishwajit Bhattacharyya, senior counsel has submitted that appellants (No. 39, 41, and 42) have not taken possession of the subject flats/apartments inasmuch as the Occupancy Certificate has not been made available so far. The Supreme Court also said the senior counsel stated that the allotment made in favour of the applicant No. 24 as illegally terminated by the respondent on October 18, 2023 and the amount deposited by the said appellant was refunded by depositing the same through RTGS mode into his account, even after an order was passed by this Court on November 7, 2023.

The Supreme Court has adjourned the hearing of the petition to July 23, 2024.

Welcoming the Supreme Court's order directing the respondents to maintain the status quo, Karnataka Home Buyers Forum Sanchalak Dhananjaya Padmanabhachar has said that when the case is pending before the honourable Supreme Court, the promoters sending agreement termination notice to home buyers is like disrespecting the honorable court's proceedings. "Recently in Karnataka, RERA authority passed an order pertaining to the Mantri Pinnacle project, that an agreement cannot be terminated when the matter is pending before the RERA Authority," said Dhananjaya Padmanabhachar.

Search for Prajwal Revanna intensifies

3 more victims come forward to depose before SIT; teams sent out to foreign countries to track down fugitive MP

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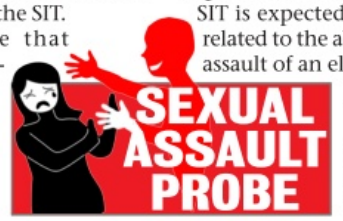
KAUSHIK JN

A clutch of reporters gather around HD Revanna as he was taken to the Bowring Hospital for a check up on Sunday

There are 80 students staying at the Government Post-Matric Girls Hostel. Every day was a gruelling experience for these girls, as even the basic infrastructure was not in place at their hostel. There was no free supply of sanitary napkins and no facility to dispose of used napkins; they did not even have sturdy cots to sleep on.

B The Revanna family faces escalating challenges as the Special Investigation Team (SIT) has ramped up its international search for the absconding Prajwal Revanna, a sitting JD(S) MP and candidate for Hassan. In the wake of HD Revanna's arrest on Saturday, three additional victims of the alleged sexual assault have come forward to approach the SIT.

Sources indicate that these victims presented themselves to the SIT following HD Revanna's arrest, with plans for their statements to be recorded soon. Further details on this development are pending. Speculation is rife that Prajwal Revanna, the prime accused in the case and son of JD(S) MLA HD Revanna, may surrender to authorities following his father's arrest. A dedicated team from the SIT has already embarked on a mission abroad, specifically Budapest, Hungary, to apprehend Prajwal Revanna based on intelligence regarding his movements. His frequent changes in location have made tracking him a challenge.



There are reports suggesting Prajwal Revanna might arrive at Mangaluru International Airport, although conflicting information implies his return may coincide with the conclusion of the Lok Sabha elections, possibly a tactic to mislead authorities. The SIT, taking no risks, has heightened vigilance across all airports nationwide. Additionally, the SIT is expected to file another FIR related to the abduction and sexual assault of an elderly woman, allegedly by Prajwal Revanna. She is currently in SIT custody after being rescued from a farmhouse belonging to HD Revanna's PA Rajagopal in Mysuru district.

The video depicting the ordeal of the rescued woman portrays Prajwal Revanna disregarding her pleas and committing acts of sexual assault despite her fervent protests, including reminders of her service to his family. The distressing footage sparked widespread public outcry after circulating on social media.

In a separate incident recounted in the second FIR, another victim, a local JD(S) leader who is married, narrated her harrowing experience. She disclosed in her CID complaint that Prajwal Revanna had threatened to release a rape video if she dared to report him. The initial FIR against Prajwal Revanna stemmed from a complaint forwarded by the State Women's Commission.

Cong plans financial assistance for victims

During Sunday's press conference, Congress general secretary and Karnataka's party in-charge, Randeep Singh Surjewala, announced that the Congress government in Karnataka would extend financial assistance to individuals allegedly sexually assaulted by Prajwal Revanna. Surjewala highlighted the demand made by former Congress president Rahul Gandhi for appropriate actions against the accused. "Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has pledged financial support to the numerous victims of sexual assault, an unprecedented case in the last 75 years," Surjewala remarked during the conference.

Surjewala also expressed concerns regarding the actions taken by the External Affairs Ministry, questioning why Prajwal was not prevented from fleeing abroad and why his diplomatic passport was not canceled by the Prime Minister. He further inquired about the absence of a blue corner notice through Interpol to facilitate Prajwal's return. In response to these concerns, Sidda-ramaiah assured that a blue corner notice would indeed be issued to bring Prajwal back to India.

Helpline set up

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) initiated a helpline for victims involved in the Prajwal Revanna sexual abuse case. Previously established to address sexual harassment cases in Hassan district, the SIT discovered additional victims related to the incident. Victims or informants seeking legal aid, security, or assistance can reach out to the helpline at 6360938947, ensuring confidentiality. Home Minister, Dr G Parameshwara, announced the issuance of a blue corner notice and having solicited Interpol's assistance in apprehending Prajwal. A blue corner Notice, used by international police cooperation bodies, aims to gather information regarding a person's involvement in a crime, including their identity and location.

IN BRIEF

R Ashoka: 'Will act against Prajwal'

Karnataka Leader of Opposition and Bharatiya Janata Party Leader R Ashoka said on Sunday that if suspended Janata Dal (Secular) leader Prajwal Revanna wins the election from Hassan constituency, an action will be taken against him. Addressing a press conference, R Ashoka, who spoke about HD Revanna's arrest in the woman kidnapping case, said that it was right to arrest former minister HD Revanna.

"I appreciate the work of the SIT police. Strict action should be taken against HD Revanna," he said. "We will take strict action against Prajwal even if he wins. Prajwal Revanna is yet to win the match. If Prajwal wins, let his party leaders take action," Ashoka added. **– ANI**

HD Revanna cries conspiracy

Janata Dal (Secular) leader HD Revanna, who was arrested by the SIT, said on Saturday that it is a political conspiracy against him and he has never seen anything like this in his political career. Revanna was brought to the Bowring & Lady Curzon Hospital for medical examination after he was arrested on Saturday by SIT officials in a kidnapping case.

"It's a political conspiracy going on against me. In my 40 years of political life, I have never seen anything like this," he said to the reporters outside the hospital.

"There is no blame on me in politics. A complaint was made against me on April 28. However, no evidence was found in this case. With the malicious intent of arresting me, they filed a kidnapping case against me and arrested me," Revanna added. **– ANI**

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

₹1,000 crore savings a day if it rains

Have you ever considered the tremendous impact just one downpour can have? DK Shivakumar recently shed light on this during a conversation with journalists. He said, "I've been fervently praying for rainfall because a single day of rain translates to immense benefits for the government. We can save up to Rs 1,000 crore, conserve free power supply, and recharge groundwater. Otherwise, with water scarcity, people resort to continuous drilling and deplete the water table."

'Connection' matters

Since Prajwal Revanna's case hit the headlines, there's been mounting pressure on the HD Deve Gowda family to share their thoughts. HD Kumaraswamy has stepped up, emphasising on the need for truth and justice, suggesting that if Prajwal is indeed at fault, the law should handle it. HDK's son Nikhil Kumaraswamy has been notably quiet lately. Earlier, there were rumours of tension between Nikhil and Prajwal, but they made a public appearance to dispel such notions. Now, journalists have been keen to hear Nikhil's stance. His response, though politically nuanced, hinted at a distance from the situation, stressing limited ties to Hassan and downplaying any significant 'connections' with Prajwal.

Social media trouble

Shivaraj Kumar is the newest celebrity to express frustration with social media. In a recent statement to the media, he mentioned feeling fortunate to have grown up in an era devoid of social media. Shivanna voiced concerns over the negative impact of social media, citing the widespread dissemination of falsehoods without any oversight or regulation. He highlighted the proliferation of misinformation through platforms like WhatsApp and cautioned against the consequences of spreading lies and hate online.

Home Minister's words

During a recent media interaction, BJP's Shivamogga candidate and BS Yediyurappa's son, BY Raghavendra, was questioned about the anticipation surrounding his statements and who holds the final word in his household. Smiling, BYR responded that he always listens to his wife, whom he affectionately referred to as his 'Home Minister'. "While I may be a public figure, within the walls of my home, my wife is the commanding authority, and I greatly respect her and heed her words. This dynamic is not unique to my household but is prevalent in many others as well."

Silver gift

During a recent event attended by Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was about to leave the stage due to prior commitments. However, Horticulture Minister SS Mallikarjun was determined not to let him depart so easily. He rushed over and stopped Siddaramaiah, urging him to stay until he could be properly honoured. Mallikarjun was then observed dashing from one end of the stage to the other, gesturing to his staff to bring the items for the felicitation. After a few moments of hustle, Mallikarjun returned to the CM, presented him with a shawl, and gifted him a silver mace in recognition of his contributions. **— Sridhar Vivan**

Campaigning for 2nd phase ends

Crucial phase for BJP which had bagged all 14 of these LS seats in 2019

The campaigning for the second phase of polling in 14 Lok Sabha segments in Congress-ruled Karnataka ended on Sunday, with the "Hassan sex scandal" wading into the narrative in no small measure.

Tuesday's elections (May 7) matter the most for the BJP as it had bagged all those 14 seats in the 2019 polls.

Karnataka has a total of 28 Lok Sabha constituencies. The first phase of elections for 14 segments was held on April 26.

Congress leaders including Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra have targeted the BJP over the alleged sex scandal involving Hassan JD(S) MP, Prajwal Revanna, in campaign rallies.

The BJP, on the other hand, has attacked the government for alleged failure to "contain anti-national activities", and incidents of 'Love Jihad' and 'appeasement politics'.

The party leaders repeatedly referred to the bomb blast at a cafe here on March 1, the murder of 23-year-old Neha Hiremath on a college campus in Hubballi by Fayaz Khondunaik on April 18 and the raising of pro-Pakistan slogans in the corridors of Vidhana Soudha on February 27.

Speaking to reporters in the district headquarters town of Belagavi, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday said, "In the first phase, we will win about eight to nine seats. In the second phase, we will win in 10 constituencies." The Congress is also banking heavily on the state government's guarantee schemes and remains optimistic that they will pay the party electoral dividends.

Among the candidates in the fray for the May 7 polls is Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, who is seeking a fifth straight term from Dharwad.

File photo of supporters of BJP at an election rally

There will be a by-poll to the Shorapur assembly constituency in Yadgir district on May 7 following the death of Congress MLA Raja Venkatappa Naik in February this year.

The 14 segments going to polls on Tuesday are: Belgaum (Belagavi), Uttara Kannada, Chikkodi, Bagalkot (Bagalkote), Bidar, Haveri, Dharwad, Koppal, Bellari (Ballari), Raichur, Bijapur (Vijayapura), Davangere and Shimoga (Shivamogga) and Gulbarga (Kalaburagi).

According to the Election Commission, 227 candidates are in the fray. The BJP and the Congress have fielded 14 candidates each while the Bahujan Samaj Party is trying its luck in nine seats. There are 117 independents. Also, 73 people are fighting the election from registered unrecognised parties.

The 14 constituencies have 2.59 crore voters, the EC said, adding, there are a total of 28,257 main polling stations.

Among the BJP contestants are: former Chief Ministers Basavaraj Bommai (Haveri) and Jagadish Shettar (Belgaum), former Assembly Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri (Uttara Kannada) and former Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's son B Y Raghavendra (Shimoga).

Congress President M Mallikarjun Kharge's son-in-law Radhakrishna Doddamani is contesting from Gulbarga.

The Congress has fielded Minister Eshwar Khandre's son Sagar Khandre (Bidar), Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar's son Mrinal Hebbalkar (Belgaum), Minister Satish Jarkiholi's daughter Priyanka Jarkiholi (Chikkodi), Minister Shivanand Patil's daughter Samyukta Patil (Bagalkot) and Geetha Shivarajkumar, who is wife of Kannada film actor Shivarajkumar and daughter of former Chief Minister late S Bangarappa (Shimoga).

As Congress has fielded Karnataka Minister for Mines and Geology SS Mallikarjun's wife Prabha Mallikarjun from Davangere, the BJP gave ticket to Gayathri Siddeshwara, who is wife of MP GM Siddeshwara. **-PTI**

'Intimidating' video lands BJP leaders in hot water

Karnataka Congress has filed a complaint to the Election Commission against BJP national president JP Nadda, social media in-charge Amit Malviya, and state chief BY Vijayendra for allegedly posting a video on social media aimed at "intimidating" members of Schedule Caste/ Schedule Tribe to not vote for Congress in the Lok Sabha polls.

In a complaint filed to the Chief Electoral Officer in Bengaluru, the party also alleged the violation of the Model Code of Conduct (MCC) by using animated videos of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah by portraying the Congress party as favouring a particular religion (Muslims) and suppressing members of SC/STs and OBC communities, with the intention to create feelings of enmity, hatred and ill-will against members of the SC/ST community.

Ramesh Babu, Chairman, Media and Communication of Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC), said in the complaint, "... the tenor of video... is in nature of intimidating persons belonging to SC/ST Community that leaders of Congress party are likely to favour Muslims at cost of SC/ST Community. Since, elections to Lok Sabha is being held on 07/05/2024 in 14 constituencies, the video post of BJP on their official social media handle is nothing but intimidating SC/ST community not to cast a vote to Congress. This is a clear case of intimidating SC/ST community members and further projecting SC/ST community people in a bad light showing them as 'Eggs' and being kicked by another religion i.e., Muslims."

The complaint,further said, "It is unfathomable as to how the State Level Media Monitoring committee approved this video to be uploaded by BJP. In the event of non-certification, why no action has been initiated for using an animated image/video of Rahul Gandhi and Siddaramaiah and also defaming the SC/ST and OBC community people by projecting them as 'EGG.'" **-ANI**

Tents, fans, ambulances to keep it cool at polling centres

With just two days left for the second phase of the Lok Sabha polls in Karnataka, the Election Commission has made elaborate arrangements to increase voter turnout amid the soaring temperatures in the 14 constituencies that go to the polls on May 7.

The first phase of the general elections in 14 of Karnataka's 28 Lok Sabha constituencies was held on April 26, and the second, for the rest of the 14 segments, is on May 7.

From arranging shamianas and tents, additional fans and drinking water facilities, to keeping ambulances on standby and using adjacent rooms of the polling booth as waiting areas, the Election Commission is making efforts to ensure that the polling percentage is not affected due to the "harsh summer".

There are 28,269 polling stations in these 14 constituencies -- Chikkodi, Belgaum, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Raichur, Bidar, Koppal, Bellary, Haveri, Dharwad, Uttara Kannada, Davangere and Shimoga --which are going to the polls on May 7.

In this first phase, Karnataka recorded 69.56 per cent voter turnout.

Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Meena said the constituencies where polling will take place on May 7 are in North Karnataka region and the temperature is slightly high there, "so we have made all necessary arrangements to ensure that people aren't deterred from coming out of their homes to vote."

File photo of a voter in Bengaluru

He further said, "It is a harsh summer, so we are making special arrangements to mitigate this temperature, (and the possibility of) stroke, dehydration... So, we are making special arrangements for shades, drinking water, fans wherever required at the polling stations."

The poll body has also roped in ASHA workers and Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) workers to handle any medical emergency that may arise at the polling stations.

"We also have local-level health workers including ASHA workers and ANMs from primary health centres, so they will have basic medical kits to ensure that first aid is given to voters and polling officials in case of any medical emergency," he said.

Ambulances have also been kept ready in a cluster of polling stations so that patients requiring more than first aid can be quickly taken to hospital, he added.

The priority is to ensure the safety and well-being of poll officials and voters, especially senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

Adequate number of tents and umbrellas for shade, and chairs to seat the officials and voters have been provided at the polling stations to ensure that they are not exposed to direct sunlight.

"All arrangements are being done to ensure that people have a pleasant experience and that the harsh summer will not deter them from coming to vote. We will do our best to see that people will not face any problem," the CEO said.

There are a total of 2,59,52,958 electors in these 14 constituencies, out of which 1,29,83,406 are male, 1,29,67,607 are female and 1,945 are others. **-PTI**

Ace about town

Ace badminton player PV Sindhu arrives at the launch event of a product she is the brand ambassador for, in the city on Sunday

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Skipper Faf du Plessis wants RCB to keep momentum going after hat-trick of wins

Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) made it a hat-trick of wins on Saturday night and skipper Faf du Plessis wants his players to carry forward the hard-fought momentum they have built over the past fortnight.

The previous win was the result of a complete team performance from RCB: their best batting and bowling powerplays, achieved with some electric hitting and pace-bowling backed up by sharp fielding.

"Boys well done tonight, unbelievable performance. From my side I can feel the confidence in the group when we are out there in the field.

I hope that belief is starting to filter through the group of how good a team we are when we are playing the style of cricket we want to play. So unbelievable effort on that," captain du Plessis said on RCB Dressing Room Chat.

The skipper added, "With the bat I know we were not at our best tonight at the last bit of it. That is a point we will talk about in the review. But make sure we celebrate this because we have worked hard three games on the bounce. We take the momentum with us, we take the confidence with us when we move to the next game."

Assistant coach Adam Griffith also complimented the players for putting together the best powerplay displays for RCB in both batting and bowling, among several other brilliant performances.

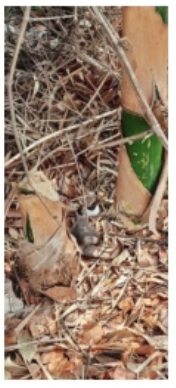
"From the bowling perspective tonight, 23 for 3, that is the best powerplay of the tournament. We only got hit for two boundaries in that time, so well done, execution was spot-on. We bowled to the conditions perfectly," coach Griffith said.

"We kept talking about the aggressiveness to take wickets and to bowl a team out is always tough in a T20 game, to take 10 wickets is exactly what we were after, so well done. The last four overs, we took 5-26. We finished beautifully. It was a team bowling effort and we all played our part as a group." **ANI**

Miscreants have field day at Benniganahalli Lake

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

has arranged security guards for Benniganahalli Lake but that hasn't stopped the miscreants. "Though the BBMP Lakes Department has deputed one home guard for each shift. It can be tough for one home guard to keep a vigil on miscreants. The other problem is the lack of fence for the lake along the railway track. All these years, the miscreants used to steal electrical equipment including bulbs but now they are attempting to cut trees. It is too bad. The authorities must look into this problem," said Benniganahalli Kere Community Development Trust secretary NH Balasubramanian.



The volunteers of Benniganahalli Kere Community Development Trust met the BBMP Lakes Department officials recently seeking permission for the maintenance of the lake but that was not granted. "We requested the BBMP Lakes Department to allow us to maintain the lake, including security as we can find a sponsor who would donate the cost of lake maintenance under the corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative but the authorities did not give their consent,'' said Benniganahalli Kere Community Development Trust treasurer Anupama VL.

Expressing concern over the missing of electrical equipment and cutting of bamboo, Krishnamurthy Maturu, a volunteer, demanded that the BBMP Lakes Department provide adequate security for the lake and also fence the lake to prevent miscreants from entering the premises. "The BBMP Lakes Department must protect this water body. Volunteers have been working hard to save this lake," he said.

When contacted, Gangulamma, the in-charge of home guards for Benniganahalli Lake and other lakes, said that the home guards are on election duty. "As of now, we have assigned one home guard for the Benniganahalli Lake. Two home guards will be on duty at the lake only after all the home guards are relieved from the election duty," said Gangulamma.

BBMP Executive Engineer (Lakes) Bhooprada said the BMRCL handed over the lake to the BBMP a month ago. "Lamps and electrical equipment were missing much before the lake was handed over to the BBMP. The BMRCL has stated that it has already lodged a police complaint. I have directed the home guards department to assign home guards on night duty at the lake to prevent miscreants from entering the lake land," said the executive engineer.

'Violators not scared of fines as they can choose when to pay'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

were enforcing the rules, there were so many allegations from the public," said a senior traffic official.

They added that with the public choosing when to pay the fine, there is hardly any concern among violators. "The problem is not due to lack of signages. People are simply not bothered by traffic violations.

Even if we send them notice on paying a penalty, they can choose when they pay and they don't feel the need to pay up even with long-pending fines. Our current system does not allow for fines to be directly cut from a bank account," added the official.

Activists say that actual no-entry violations remain much more than recorded figures. "There is a rampant violation of the rule everywhere.

High-density areas like Chickpete and Shivajinagar also see this violation.

The problem lies with the commuter habit that becomes immune upon not being penalised the first time and consequent times. Penalising of the violations should be across all the areas," said Rajkumar Dugar, Convenor of Citizens for Citizens.

Other activists highlight that visibility of officials' needs to act as a deterrence. "Even in developed countries, people are not law-abiding citizens but the fear of law keeps them in check. In our country, police officials are split between law and order and traffic. Mostly Hoysala can be seen visibly by the public but they don't take action on traffic violations.

We should also consider merging traffic and law and order police for increased enforcement and visibility. Visibility by traffic officials needs to be increased to act as a deterrent," said Sandeep Anirudhan, a civic activist.

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I, Nasimunnissa W/o. Syed Shrifuddin Residing no 1, 4t Main, 5th Cross, Subramanya Temple, Kavalbyrasandra, Bangalore North, RT Nagar, Bangalore-560032 have changed my name to NASEEMUNNISA vide affidavit dated: 03.05.2024 Sworn before notary: S.R.Ravikumar, Bangalore

I Shwetha Murthy W/O,Santhosh R N R/o #27 7th main 7th Cross Bhuvaneshwarinagar kathriguppe 560085,have changed my name to Shwetha H R For all Purposes.

I Jaya W/O, Deep Rajendra Desai R/o A4-404, Mahaveer Ranches, Hosa Road, Sai Sree Layout, Choodasandra, Bengaluru have changed my name to Jaya Singh.

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HEALTH TIP: Deep breathing, meditation, or progressive muscle relaxation can help calm your mind

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Change of stance

Can an organ transplant really change someone's personality?

Changes in personality following a heart transplant have been noted pretty much ever since transplants began. In one case, a person who hated classical music developed a passion for the genre after receiving a musician's heart. The recipient later died holding a violin case.

In another case, a 45-year-old man remarked how, since receiving the heart of a 17-year-old boy, he loves to put on headphones and listen to loud music – something he had never done before the transplant.

A recent study suggests that heart transplant recipients may not be unique in experiencing personality changes. These changes can occur following the transplantation of any organ.

What might explain this? One suggestion could be that this is a placebo effect where the overwhelming joy of receiving a new lease on life gives the person a sunnier disposition. Other transplant recipients suffer from guilt and bouts of depression and other psychological issues that might also be seen as personality changes.

However, there is some evidence to suggest that these personality changes aren't all psychological. Biology may play a role, too.

The cells of the transplanted organ will perform their expected function – heart cells will beat, kidney cells will filter and liver cells will metabolise – but they also play a role elsewhere in the body. Many organs and their cells release hormones or signalling molecules that have an effect locally and elsewhere in the body.

The heart seems to be most commonly associated with personality changes. The chambers release peptide hormones, including "atrial natriuretic peptide" and "brain natriuretic peptide", which help regulate the balance of fluid in the body by affecting the kidneys.

They also play a role in electrolyte balance and inhibiting the activity of the part of our nervous system responsible for the fight-or-flight response. The cells in charge of this are in the hypothalamus – a part of the brain that plays a role in everything from homeostasis (balancing biological systems) to mood.

So the donor organ, which may have a different base level of hormones and peptide production from the original organ, could change the recipient's mood and personality through the substances it releases.

It has been shown that natriuretic peptide levels are higher following transplantation – and never return to normal. Although some of the elevation is probably a response to the trauma of surgery, it may not account for everything.

> **The cells of the transplanted organ will perform their expected function, but they also play a role elsewhere in the body**

Memories stored outside the brain

The body stores memories in the brain. We access them when thinking or they can be triggered by sight or smell. But memories are basically neurochemical processes where nerves convey impulses to each other and exchange specialised chemicals (neurotransmitters) at the interface between them.

While in transplant surgery, many of the nerves that govern the function of the organ are cut and are not able to be reattached, this doesn't mean that the nerves within the organ do not still function. In fact, there is evidence that they may be partially restored a year after surgery.

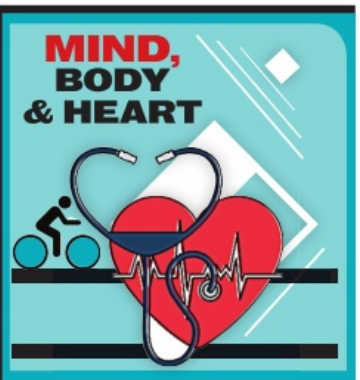
These neurochemical actions and interactions could feed into the nervous system of the recipient, enacting a physiological response that then affects the recipient's personality according to memories from the donor.

We know that cells from the donor are found circulating in the recipient's body and donor DNA is seen in the recipient's body two years after the transplant. This again poses the question of where the DNA goes and what actions it may have.

One thing it does is stimulate immune responses. These immune responses may be enough to trigger personality changes as long-term, low-level inflammation is known to be able to change personality traits, such as extroversion and conscientiousness.

Whichever mechanism, or combination of mechanisms, is responsible, this area of research warrants further investigation so that recipients can understand the physical and psychological changes that could occur following surgery.

(By Adam Taylor, Lancaster University, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Healthy lifestyle tweaks

Eat clean
The cliché is true; your body is a temple, and you have to be careful of what you're feeding it.
While a once in a blue moon cheat day won't hurt, unmindful eating habits are the core reason for stunting the growth of your immune system.
Nourish your body with vitamin-rich foods and give it sufficient amounts of fibre. Remember your immune system has nothing to do with the way your body looks.
For a healthy liver, cruciferous vegetables like Kale, Broccoli and Cabbage should be included in daily diet. A healthy liver ensures the body's natural detoxification process.

Sleep well
Getting your sleep cycle in sync is one of the biggest gifts you can give your body. The body requires about 8 hours of sound sleep to rejuvenate and reboot its systems. It has to be kept in mind that it's not only 8 hours of sleep, but the timely hours of sleep that matter too. Often, we stress ourselves by staying up till 3 am thereby disrupting the normal functioning of our body that leads to obesity, stress, emotional imbalance and other illnesses.

Work Out
Working out regularly has been scientifically proven to boost the immune system. Regular exercise mobilises the T cells, a type of white blood cell which guards the body against infection. However, continuous rigorous workout weakens the immune system, leaving you prone to flu and viral infections. A brisk walk in the sunlight for 10–15 minutes will ensure that enough Vitamin D is produced in the body.

– Dr Manoj Kutteri, Atmantan, for Femina

MIRRORLIGHTS

Information, changing beliefs have little impact on behavioural change of individuals: Study

Social support and tapping into an individual's habits can have a more "sizeable impact" when trying to bring about behavioural changes in people in times of a pandemic or for tackling climate change as strategies like giving accurate information or trying to change beliefs have "negligible effects," a new study has found.

Removing practical obstacles to behaviour like providing health insurance to encourage healthy behaviour too can be effective, they said.

"Interventions targeting knowledge, general attitudes, beliefs, administrative and legal sanctions, and trustworthiness -- these factors researchers and policy makers put so much weight on -- are actually quite ineffective. They have negligible effects,"

Dolores Albarracín from the University of Pennsylvania, US, said.

The study, reviewing results from multiple studies, is published in the journal Nature Reviews Psychology.

Unfortunately, many policies and reports are centred around goals like increasing vaccine confidence (example of an attitude) or curbing misinformation, Albarracín said.

Co-author Javier Granados Samayoa, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania, said while targeting knowledge and beliefs to effect behavioural changes seems straightforward, "it's not that easy."

"What the literature suggests is that there are a lot of intervening processes that have to line up for people to actually act on those beliefs, so it's not that easy," he said.

The authors said knowing which behavioural change interventions work at what level – individual or social – will be especially crucial in the face of growing health and environmental challenges.

In their analysis, the researchers found that 'knowledge' measures like educating people about the pros of vaccination and measures targeted at 'general skills' like programmes encouraging people to quit smoking had negligible effects on changing behaviours.

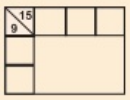
Instead, they found that targeting habits at an individual's level such as extending support to people for starting or stopping a behaviour was effective.Measures targeting attitudes and which involved making people associate certain behaviours as being 'good' or 'bad' also were helpful in causing a change in behaviour, the researchers said.

Empowering people with skills such as learning how to remove obstacles towards achieving a certain desirable behaviour also is an effective measure, they said.

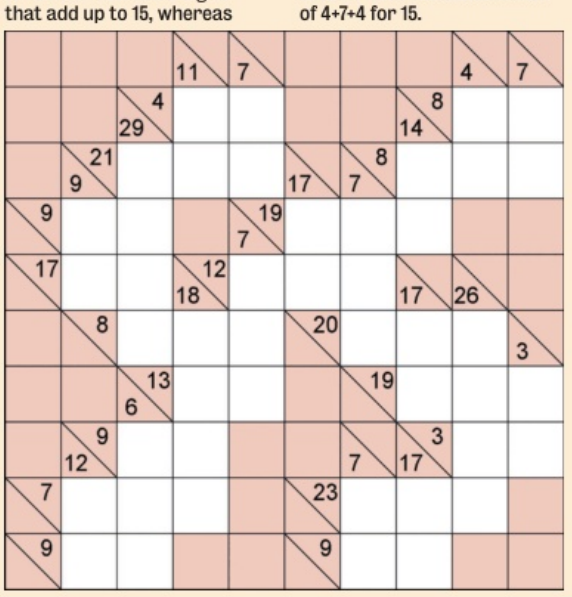
-PTI

Kakuro

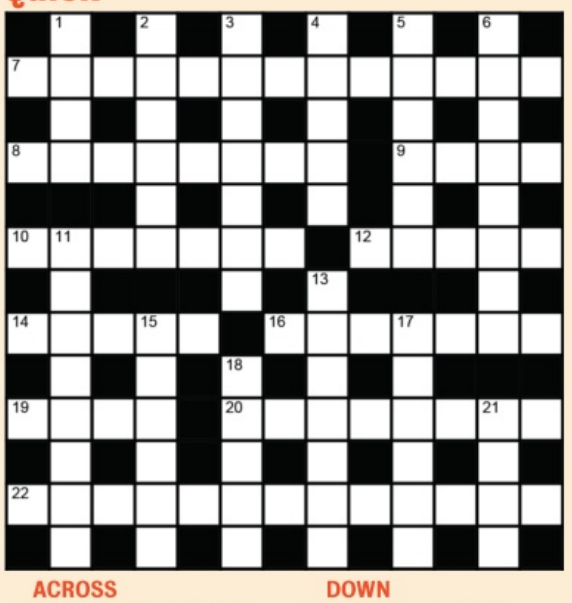
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Director of Bandit Queen (7,6)
8 Scurried, sank a boat (8)
9 Meeting point (4)
10 Second-hand vehicle (4,3)
12 Fabricating (5)
14 Throng or crowd (5)
16 Answered or responded; acknowledged (7)
19 Copied (4)
20 Root vegetables (8)
22 Defer action; delay (13)

DOWN

1 French elegance (4)
2 Moved over ice (6)
3 Picturesque scene (7)
4 Fabia manufacturers (5)
5 Without pretence (6)
6 Make more concise (8)
11 Corks or bungs (8)
13 Rues (7)
15 Subtract (6)
17 Inner covering (6)
18 A steamed dosa (5)
21 ___ through : completes successfully? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: Y EQUALS D

YUX'C ESPD HK UX LUHM YMDGNZ, UM LUHM YMDGNZ RSVV ESPD HK UX LUH.

Linemaro

I laugh a little harder, cry a little less, and smile a lot more

Mindchow

Common sense is nothing more than a deposit of prejudices laid down in the mind before you reach eighteen

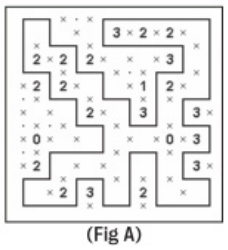
Joke of the day

After 60, all of us belong to the weaker sex

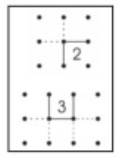
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



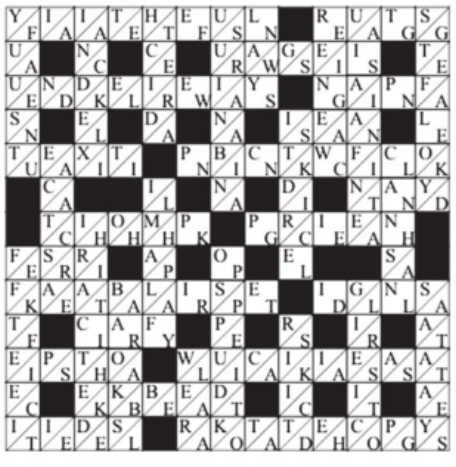
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

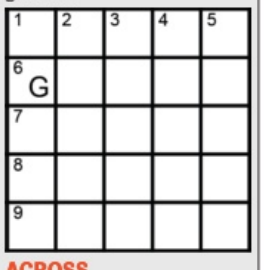
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

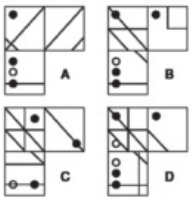
1 By mas; 6 Per go; 7 L Arab; 8 Do Ivo; 9 Stews

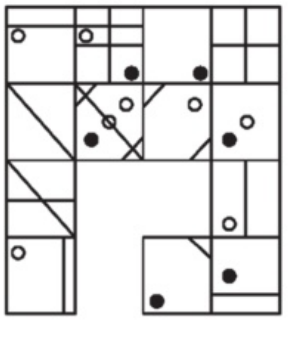
DOWN

1 Go awl; 2 A verb; 3 Sob yo; 4 Trips; 5 Dames

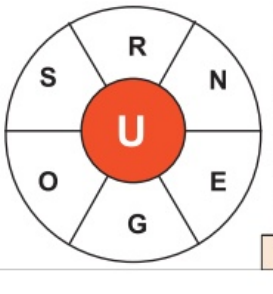
Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing section?





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

14 Average; 16 Good; 18 Outstanding

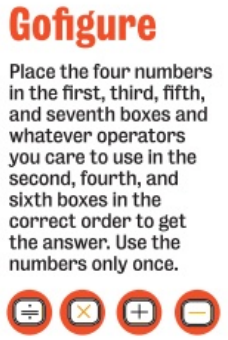
SudokuChallenge

3			7	6				8
8			5		4			
	7			8		4		
6	4	8					5	
	5						9	
	3					8	7	4
		7		9			1	
			6		5			2
1				4	7			6

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

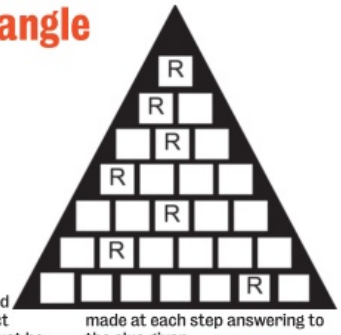
Differences: 1. Foot is moved. 2. Shovel is missing. 3. Arm is longer. 4. Zipper is missing. 5. Dog's tail is different. 6. Window is different.

Riddler

Which word is suggested by: "Midday starting block last of the Mohicans second in command bottom of the barrel second guess at wit's end beginning of the end starting line early years"?

Alpha triangle

1 18th letter
2 Concerning
3 Umbrage
4 Ceremony
5 Wearies
6 Pens
7 Shrivels up



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

JUMP, WIMPY! I WILL CATCH YA AN' SAVE YA FROM THE FIRE!
HERE I COME!
I YAM READY!
GOOD HEAVENS!? A MAN IS ABOUT TO JUMP FROM THAT BURNING BUILDING!
IT'S A GOOD THING VIPER VELMA ARRIVED IN TIME!
8-11

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

HAVE YOU SEEN THAT NEW DOLL?
IT'S CALLED "ROLAND THE AIR FORCE ROOSTER"
WHAT'S IT DO?
YOU PULL HIS STRING AND HE FLIES THE COOP
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www.creators.com

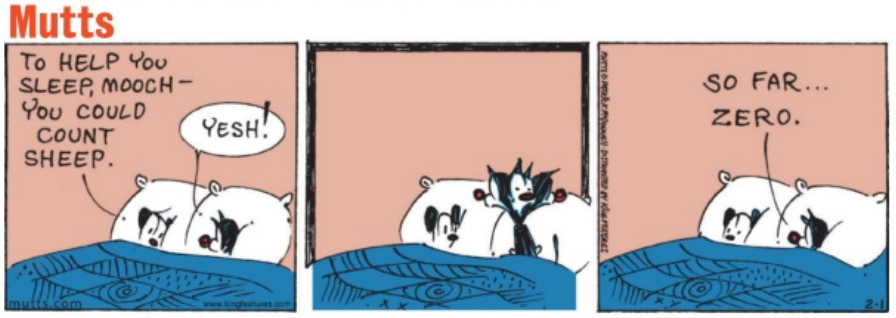
Hart of the city

I'M DOING IT!!
ME TOO!
MY BRAIN AND YOUR FEET!
WHAT ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT??
IT'S BEST NOT TO ASK.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

USING HYPNOSIS TO GET KIDS TO GO OUT AND SELL BAND TURKEYS IN MISERABLE AND FREEZING WEATHER...
YOU WERE ALWAYS ON THE CUTTING EDGE, HARRY!
DRUMS ALONG THE SIDELINES
BY HARRY DANKLE
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may prefer to gain knowledge and understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes controlling your short temper can help you perform tasks smoothly. There may be opportunities for smooth earnings, bringing comfort to your workflow. Be cautious before making new investments in assets. You're likely to spend money on loved ones, and lovebirds can enjoy their happy moments.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Feeling negativity around, you may find responsibilities burdensome and rush to complete tasks, leading to silly mistakes. Your efficiency may slow down, affecting day-to-day work and causing project delays, impacting your professional life. Seek advice from elders or consultants before making important decisions.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Feeling enthusiastic and focused can speed up postponed projects. Subordinates may assist in starting new projects, leading to future profits. Expect short trips related to family issues and potentially good news for job seekers.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Control expenditure on worthless things to increase savings. Utilise creativity at work or home to enhance social status. Lovebirds may receive support from family members for marriage, and students could receive good news academically.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Your willpower may drive innovations at work. Expect a big order in your parental business, leading to growth. New job responsibilities may keep you busy, and understanding with your spouse may improve, maintaining harmony in family life.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Facing health issues, avoid impatience and unnecessary spending. Control your short temper, and lovebirds should avoid discussions on worthless topics to prevent breakups.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Meeting influential people who can aid in work progress. Strengthen your network, prepare to implement new ideas in work or business, and plan to invest more capital for future financial gains. Engage in family gatherings and social events.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Your mother's health may be good, enjoy rewards at work, and see increased social respect. Avoid overworking due to fatigue from workload, which may cause you to miss family events.

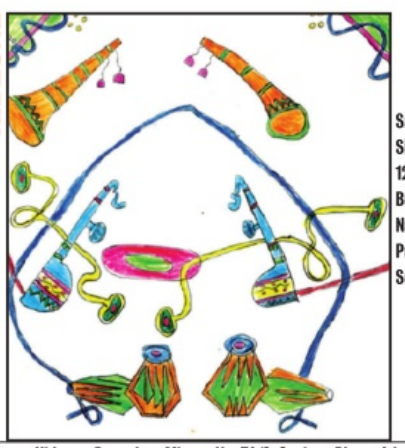
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Satisfied with work, plan short work-related trips, and seek inner peace by visiting religious places. Guidance from mentors may bring clarity regarding your goals.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Feeling dull, think twice before acting, and avoid adventurous activities. Students should focus on in-depth study for success.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Feeling good due to domestic harmony, you may meet influential people benefiting your work. Perform well at your job and expect rewards like promotions. Disputes in inherited property may settle.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Healthy and focused on goals, your performance at work may be excellent, pleasing your boss. Expect good news in legal matters, and anticipate control over opponents and business rivals.

KIDZONE



Sanjeet Singh Saini, 12 Years, BGS National Public School

Savannah Sabu, 9 Years, Mount Litera Zee School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
9^9^1 = 1+9 = 10

RIDDLER
Absolutely; Explanation: midday = middle of the word day = A. starting block = 1st letter of block = B. last of the Mohicans = S. second in command = O. bottom of the barrel = L. second guess = U. at wit's end = T beginning of the end = E. starting line = L. early years = Y

QUOTE UNCODE
Don't give up on your dreams, or your dreams will give up on you.

FAST FIVE

A	B	Y	S	M
G	R	O	P	E
L	A	B	R	A
O	V	O	I	D
W	E	S	T	S

STRIKE OUT

F	A	I	T	H	F	U	L	R	A	G	S			
A	N	E	R	A	S	E	S	T						
U	N	D	E	R	W	A	Y	N	I	P	A			
S	E	A	N	S	E	N	L							
T	A	X	I	P	I	C	K	W	I	C	K			
C	I	A	I	N	A	Y								
C	H	O	M	P	G	R	E	E	N					
F	A	T	A	L	I	S	T	I	L	L	S			
E	R	I	P	P	L	A								
C	R	Y	E	S	I	A								
E	B	B	E	D	I	T	E							
P	H	A	L	U	C	K	I	E	S	T				
C	E													
T	E	D	S	R	O	A	D	H	O	G	S			

QUICK

C	S	T	S	O	C									
S	H	E	K	H	A	R	K	A	P	O	O	R		
S	I	A	B	O	E	N								
S	C	U	T	T	L	E	D	N	O	D	E			
	E			A		L	E							
U	S	E	D	C	A	R	L	Y	I	N	G			
	T		U		R			S						
H	O	R	D	E		R	E	P	L	I	E	D		
P		E		A	G	I								
A	P	E	D		P	A	R	S	N	I	P	S		
	E		U	P		E	I		U					
E		R	O	C	R	A	S	T	I	N	A	T	E	
S	T		M		S		G		S					

MENSA PUZZLE
D: in each row across, the second square is a combination of all the lines and symbols in the other three squares.

BULL'S EYE
genus, gnus, nurse, onus, rogue, rouge, rouse, rune, rung, ruse, snug, sour, sung, sure, surge, SURGEON, urge, user

SUDOKU

3	1	4	7	6	9	5	2	8
8	9	2	5	3	4	1	6	7
5	7	6	2	9	1	4	3	9
6	4	8	9	7	3	2	5	1
7	5	1	4	2	8	6	9	3
4	6	7	8	9	2	3	1	5
2	3	9	1	5	6	8	7	4
9	8	3	6	1	5	7	4	2
1	2	5	3	4	7	9	8	6

ALPHA TRIANGLE
R, Ra, Ire, Rite, Tires, Writes, Withers.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 2 - 2 + 7 = 13
Medium
5 - 6 x 2 + 6 = 4
Hard
3 x 7 + 2 - 2 = 21

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 17, Issue No 090 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

 # Bernard Hill no more
British actor Bernard Hill, best known for his roles in 'Titanic' and 'The Lord Of The Rings' trilogy, died on Sunday aged 79

Healing touch

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who has been diagnosed with the auto-immune condition myositis, revealed that she is continuously seeking out alternative approaches to healing and recovery. Taking to Instagram, Samantha shared a picture of herself undergoing a far infrared sauna session, a sauna type that uses light to generate heat.

She is seen seated draped in a white towel. The actress captioned the post: "Continuously seeking out alternative approaches to healing and recovery." Samantha also listed some benefits of using a far infrared sauna.

Samantha celebrated her 37th birthday last month by announcing her debut Telugu film tentatively titled 'Bangaram' under her banner Tralala Moving Pictures.

–IANS

Bling it on

Actress Tisca Chopra chose to go all bling and sparkly, expressing that she had to try it out because she is in Dubai. Tisca took to her Instagram stories and shared a mirror selfie donning sparkly sunglasses. She is also seen carrying a cross-body Louis Vuitton bag and a bright pink heart-shaped ring.

She captioned the picture: "Had to try… Because it's #Dubai!!" Tisca regularly shares life updates with her fans on social media. –IANS

Cheerleader bae

Vijay Varma is all agog over Tamannaah's new film

Actor Vijay Varma is all praise for his girlfriend and actor Tamannaah Bhatia as her latest release 'Aranmanai 4' continues to make waves at the box office.

On Sunday morning, Vijay took to Instagram Story and gave a big shout to Tamannaah.

"Congratulations on the fabulous response, @tamannaahspeaks! Keep killing it," he wrote.

Tamannaah re-shared the story and dropped three red heart emojis.

The film is directed and written by Sundar C. It has been produced by Khushbu Sundar under the banner Avni Cinemax. Aranmanai 4 stars Sundar C, Tamannaah Bhatia, Raashii Khanna, Santhosh Prathap, Ramachandra Raju, Kovai Sarala, Yogi Babu, KS Ravikumar, Jayaprakash, VTV Ganesh, Delhi Ganesh, Rajendran and Singampuli. It is the fourth instalment in the Aranmanai film series and the sequel to Aranmanai 3, released in 2021.

Tamannaah and Vijay's relationship rumours started after an alleged kissing video of theirs from New Year 2023 had gone viral on the internet. The couple was also seen romancing in 'Lust Stories 2'.

After months of speculations, Tamannaah confirmed her relationship with Vijay in an interview in June last year. Ever since they often comment on each other's social media posts and make appearances in public together. They also walked on the ramp together for Abraham and Thakore.

–ANI

Elegant lady

All the times Shraddha Kapoor captivated the internet with her elegance shining bright on the Gram

Watch this story come alive on your device by scanning this QR code

How did she pull that stunt!

Hollywood star Emily Blunt has revealed the scariest stunt of her career and shared that it was in the 2018 film 'Mary Poppins Returns' that presented her biggest challenge. Blunt told people.com that 'Mary Poppins Returns', which turned out to be a huge stunt challenge for her: "That entrance was very stressful for me."

The actress recounted that the character's entrance "had to start in the clouds and come all the way down" towards the ground while holding an umbrella aloft, reports deadline.com.

Additionally, Blunt added: "And I'm supposed to walk effortlessly into my close-up as if it's nothing. I did three takes -- and then I felt my tolerance go, 'Pfft!' And that was it. I was done."

Director Rob Marshall requested a fourth take. Blunt said: "I did three takes, and I could see Rob gearing up to do another one. I was like, 'Nope, no, no, no, I'm done.' It was over."–IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Mega trailer launch

The trailer of the much-awaited movie Grey Games was launched on Friday. The Vijaya Raghavendra starrer is helmed by Gangadhar Salimath who won best debutant director award for the film Ayana from Karnataka State Government in 2017. Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar, Sri Murali, SA Chinne Gowda, Veena and others attended the trailer launch event and wished the cast and crew all the best.

While Vijaya Raghavendra plays the lead, his nephew Jai debuts in Sandalwood with this movie. "The trailer of the movie is good. My brother Vijaya is looking smart. I am very happy to see my nephew making his debut in Sandalwood with this movie," said Sri Murali.

Remembering his wife Spandana and his uncle late Puneeth Rajkumar on the occasion, Vijaya said Spandana had a lot of affection towards Jai. "My uncle Puneeth Rajkumar and my wife Spandana would have been very happy if they were alive today as both of them liked Jai very much. I will talk to the media only after the release of this movie on May 10. All moviegoers must watch this film," said Vijaya.

Jai said he did not know he would be one of the actors of Grey Games when his uncle Vijaya Raghavendra called him over the phone. "I thought my uncle was calling me for a cup of coffee but I came to know that I got an opportunity to act in Grey Games only after meeting director Gangadhar Salimath, who guided and encouraged me during the shoot," he said.

Multi-talented person

Gururaj Kulkarni Nadagouda has been busy with the release of his movie The Judgment – See You In Court. He has not only helmed The Judgment but also bankrolled it.

"I wrote the script for The Judgment. My friend introduced me to Ravichandran who agreed to play the lead," he said. He said the story was inspired by what he heard Ravichandran say in an interview. He said he felt guilty about focusing only on movies, neglecting things like family. "I, as a software engineer, happened to work in similar conditions," he said. He said it was no problem directing the veteran. "I used to tell the actors about what I expected in the scenes. There was a space for discussion and respect for each other's ideas," he said.